

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-5. (canceled).

6. (previously presented): An apparatus for manufacturing a test piece for use in biological analysis of a sample organism comprising a strip-like substrate bearing thereon numbers of known specific binding agents which are different from each other and are arranged in a line at predetermined intervals in the longitudinal direction of the strip-like substrate, the apparatus comprising:

a plurality of applicators arranged at predetermined interval in a first direction relative to a sheet-like substrate each of said plurality of applicators respectively operable to apply one of the plurality of known specific binding agents on the sheet-like substrate,

a conveyor which conveys the plurality of applicators or the sheet-like substrate relative to each other in a second direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first direction while the applicators apply the plurality of known specific binding agents, thereby applying the plurality of known specific binding agents in lines which extend in the second direction and are arranged at predetermined intervals in the first direction, and

a cutting means which cuts the sheet-like substrate bearing thereon the plurality of specific binding agents in the first direction into a plurality of strips.

7. (previously presented): The apparatus as defined in Claim 6 in which said specific binding agents are cDNA's.

8-20. (canceled).

21. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the binding agents are formed in continuous lines across the sheet-like substrate.

22. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said plurality of applicators synchronously apply the plurality of known specific binding agents on the sheet-like substrate.

23. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said conveyor comprises a conveyor belt, wherein said conveyor belt continuously conveys said strip-like substrate.

24. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said cutting means comprises:

a guide rail; and

a cutting edge;

wherein said cutting edge moves along said guide rail.

25. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said predetermined intervals comprise a fixed number of intervals.

26. (currently amended): An apparatus for manufacturing a test piece for use in biological analysis of a sample organism comprising a strip-like substrate bearing thereon numbers of known specific binding agents which are different from each other and are arranged in a line at predetermined intervals in the longitudinal direction of the strip-like substrate, the apparatus comprising:

a plurality of ~~applying~~ applicator means arranged at predetermined interval in a first direction relative to a sheet-like substrate each of said plurality of applicators respectively operable to apply one of the plurality of known specific binding agents on the sheet-like substrate,

a ~~conveying~~ conveyor means which conveys the plurality of applicators or the sheet-like substrate relative to each other in a second direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first direction while the applicators apply the plurality of known specific binding agents, thereby applying the plurality of known specific binding agents in lines which extend in the second direction and are arranged at predetermined intervals in the first direction, and

a cutting means which cuts the sheet-like substrate bearing thereon the plurality of specific binding agents in the first direction into a plurality of strips.

27. (previously presented): An apparatus for manufacturing a test piece according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of known specific binding agents applied in a line comprise a plurality of dots.

28. (previously presented): An apparatus for manufacturing a test piece according to claim 7, wherein said substrate is transparent.

29. (previously presented): An apparatus for manufacturing a test piece according to claim 7, that apparatus comprising a flat surface accommodating the sheet-like substrate.

30. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said guide rail forms an upper body portion of said cutting means.

31. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said binding agents are arranged on the surface of the strip-like substrate in the longitudinal direction of the strip-like substrate.

32. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said cutting means cuts the sheet-like substrate in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the strip-like substrate.

33. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first direction is perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the strip-like substrate.